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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

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Country programmes and related matters

Extensions of country and regional programmes*

Note of the Administrator

Summary

The present note contains information on the first two-year extension of the second country programme for Sudan (table 1); and, the first one-year extensions of first country programmes for Colombia, Equatorial Guinea and Suriname (table 2), the regional programme for Africa, and the regional programme for Asia and the Pacific (table 3). The Governments of Sudan and Equatorial Guinea requested the two-year and one-year extensions to their respective country programmes.

In accordance with established procedures, the Administrator approves the first one-year extension of country programmes, while requests for second-year or two-year extensions are submitted to the Board for approval. Table 2 and table 3 present information on the first one-year extensions of country and regional programmes approved by the Administrator since the last meeting of the Executive Board.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the extensions of the first one-year country programmes for Colombia, Equatorial Guinea and Suriname, and the regional programmes for Africa and for Asia and the Pacific; and approve the extension of the second country programme for Sudan by two years, from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2007, as indicated in table 1.

* The compilation of data required to present the Executive Board with the most current information has delayed submission of the present document

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Table 1. Extensions of country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Years covered by original country programme	Year(s) covered by any extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension		Reason and explanation	
				2nd one-year	Two years	United Nations harmonization	In-country political development
Sudan		-			X	The extension will enable alignment of the UNDP programming period with the agreed United Nations programming period scheduled to begin in January 2008. The country office will continue to work on activities to enhance peace and stability, poverty reduction, gender, HIV/AIDS and democratic governance.	The Government of Sudan has agreed to the actions of United Nations organizations to harmonize their programming cycles with the UNDAF, 2009-2012, and to the interim bridging programmes covering 2007-2008.

Table 2. Extensions of country programmes approved by the Administrator since June 2006

Country	Years covered by original country programme	Year(s) covered by any extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension		Reason and explanation	
				2nd one-year	One year	United Nations harmonization	In-country political development
Colombia	2002-2006	-	2007		X	To align the UNDP programming period with the agreed United Nations programming period scheduled to begin in January 2008.	The newly elected Government will design a new development plan over the next few months. This, together with the UNDAF process, will contribute to the new four-year country programme and ensure a high level of harmonization and coherence in long-term development planning.
Equatorial Guinea	2003-2006	-	2007		X	To align the UNDP programming period with the agreed United Nations programming period scheduled to begin in January 2008.	The Government has expressed interest in developing a poverty reduction strategy based on its development strategy that could include a broad set of reforms. An interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (IPRSP), which will provide valuable inputs to the CCA/UNDAF, is expected to be complete by the end of 2006.
Suriname	2002-2006	-	2007		X	To align the UNDP programming period with the agreed United Nations programming period scheduled to begin in January 2008.	The Government of Suriname and its development partners have agreed to align their Multi-Annual Development Plan with the UNDAF so as to create synergies among planning instruments.

Table 3. Extensions of regional programmes approved by the Administrator since June 2006

Region	Original programme period	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Reason and explanation
			Implementation and/or other issues
Regional programme for Africa	2002-2006	2007	In line with the Executive Team recommendation for the harmonization of the global and regional programmes with the cycle of the multi-year funding framework (MYFF), this extension would fill the gap between the end of the current programme in 2006 and the start of the MYFF, 2008-2011.
Regional programme for Asia and the Pacific	2002-2006	2007	The extension will allow the next regional programme document, which is currently under formulation, to be synchronized and aligned with the MYFF, 2008-2011.